



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Utah State Office  
440 West 200 South, Suite 500  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1345  
<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en.html>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1600 (UT-910)

**AUG 07 2015**

Dear Reader:

The Moab Master Leasing Plan (MLP) and Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendments/Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for the Moab and Monticello Field Offices is available for your review and comment. This document was prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in consultation with cooperating agencies, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, implementing regulations, the BLM's land use planning handbook (H-1601-1), the BLM Washington Office Instruction Memorandum (IM) No. 2010-117: *Oil and Gas Leasing Reform – Land Use Planning and Lease Parcel Reviews* (May 17, 2010), BLM Handbook H-1624-1: *Planning for Fluid Mineral Resources*, and other applicable law. Although the IM and Handbook pertain to oil and gas leasing decisions, the BLM determined that the MLP concepts are also applicable to potash leasing decisions.

Through the MLP process, the BLM will reconsider mineral leasing decisions in a portion of the Moab and Monticello RMPs that are covered in the designated Planning Area. The planning effort is to prepare the Moab MLP, potential amendments to the Moab and Monticello RMPs, and a single EIS. The scope of the decisions in the Moab MLP is limited to oil/gas and potash leasing and development in the Planning Area. This planning effort is not a full RMP revision but rather it is focused on the issues related to oil/gas and potash leasing and development.

The Planning Area consists of about 785,567 acres of public land, which includes portions of Grand and San Juan Counties, managed by the BLM Moab and Monticello Field Offices. Approximately 581,624 acres (61 percent of the Planning Area) are managed by the Moab Field Office and 203,943 acres (22 percent of the Planning Area) are managed by the Monticello Field Office.

The BLM encourages you to provide information and comments pertaining to the analysis presented in the Moab MLP and Draft EIS. Of particular importance is feedback concerning the adequacy of the alternatives, the analysis of their respective management decisions, and any new information that would help the BLM produce the Moab MLP and Final EIS. In developing the Moab MLP and Final EIS, which is the next phase of the planning process, the decision maker may select various management decisions from each of the alternatives analyzed in the Moab MLP and Draft EIS for the purpose of creating a management strategy that best meets the needs of the resources and values in this area under the multiple use and sustained yield mandate. Your timely comments will help formulate the Moab MLP and Final EIS. The Moab MLP and Draft EIS and supporting information are available on the project web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/MLP.html>.

Comments may be submitted electronically at: [blm\\_ut\\_mb\\_mlpcomments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ut_mb_mlpcomments@blm.gov). Comments may also be submitted by mail to: Bureau of Land Management, Canyon Country District Office, Attn: MLP

Comments, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532. To facilitate analysis of comments and information submitted, we strongly encourage you to submit comments in an electronic format.

Your review and comments on the content of this document are critical to the success of this planning effort. If you wish to submit comments on the Moab MLP and Draft EIS, we request that you make them as specific as possible. Comments will be more helpful if they include suggested changes, sources, or methodologies, and reference to a section or page number. Comments containing only opinions or preferences will be considered and included as part of the decision making process, although they will not receive a formal response from the BLM. Comments will be accepted for 90 calendar days following the Environmental Protection Agency's publication of its Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. The BLM can best utilize your comments and resource information submissions if received within the review period.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Public meetings to provide an overview of the document, respond to questions, and take public comments will be held subsequent to the release of the Draft EIS. These meetings will be announced by local media and the BLM website at least 15 days in advance. Public meetings are currently scheduled for Moab, Monticello, and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Copies of the Moab MLP and Draft EIS are available for public inspection at the Grand County (257 East Center Street, Moab, Utah 84532), San Juan County (80 North Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535) and Salt Lake City (Reading Room, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111) public libraries. Copies are also available for public inspection at the following BLM locations:

Moab Field Office, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532

Monticello Field Office, 365 North Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535

Utah State Office, 440 West 200 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Thank you for your continued interest in the Moab MLP. We appreciate the information and suggestions you contribute to the planning process. For additional information or clarification regarding this document or the planning process, please contact Brent Northrup, Project Manager, Canyon Country District Office, at 435-259-2151 or [bnorthup@blm.gov](mailto:bnorthup@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/ Jenna Whitlock

Jenna Whitlock

Acting Utah State Director

Bureau of Land Management